

FASHION'S LAYOUT

New Stuffs For Spring and Summer Frocks.

BARGAINS FOR GOOD BUYERS

Winter Materials Well Worth Buying Now.

Crepes and Lightweight Cloths Suitable for Warm Weather Wear to Be Had at Reduced Prices—Black and White Cheeks Among the Season's Novelties—Precedence Given in the New Spring Models to the Bolero and the Belled Coat With Short Basques—The Waistcoat an Almost Invariable Accompaniment of the Street Coat—Fresh Attractions in the Linen Frocks—The Embroideries Are Finer Than Ever.

The first display of spring goods has been made and now the merchants appear to be resting upon their laurels and giving themselves over to disposing of their old stock rather than to pushing the new goods.

To be sure there are warm weather frocks offered to tempt the women who are going South for the next two months, and there are thin stuffs on sale, particularly in shape of the higher class, but the early birds who are picking up these summery materials are few, and the crowd is to be found around the bargain counters, where winter materials light enough in character to be utilized for spring and summer wardrobes are being offered at greatly reduced prices.

Crepes in varying weights, eolennies, velvings, lightweight cloths, &c., are as



practical for one season as for another, but such goods, which they have formed a part of the winter stock, are often in the way of the new output, and merchants who keep up with every smallest move on the part of the manufacturers haven't room to carry over everything among the winter materials that might possibly have a chance among the new stuff.

And so the bargain counters are piled high with lightweight silk and wool, all wool and all silk stuffs, some of them a trifle shoddy or out of style, others fresh and conservative enough in color and design to be desirable in any season.

The woman who knows values, who can tell the quality of goods and see the possibilities in a length of material, would do well to dare the bargain counter rush and pick up some of the eolennies, crepes, &c., that are being sold at prices really low, but she must be wary, for, in some shops, goods worth no more than the price asked for them are plentifully mingled with the genuine bargains.

One woman of small means and many daughters sallied forth last Monday and came home bearing her sheaves in the form of materials for four frocks and three blouses, all bought at figures absurdly low. A length of pearl gray chiffon crepe was the best of the assortment; for, though



soiled slightly along one edge, there was enough of the material to allow for some waste and save for this quarter inch at the edge the crepe was perfect. The quality was excellent and the price not more than a third of the regular cost.

An almond green silk velvelling in a short dress length was another excellent bargain obtained in the interests of a girl still in short skirts. A dark blue and green checked worsted in light weight was well worth buying at less than half price, as was a biscuit lightweight broadcloth which had two streaks across it in the course of its length, but was exquisite in quality and could easily be cut in such fashion as to avoid the two soiled places without wasting any serious amount of material.

But successful bargain hunting is for the elect few who have time and expert knowledge and buy only to fill real wants, not merely to satisfy the bargain fever. The average woman would do better to look for what she wants at the regular counter, and these counters already offer enough in variety and beauty to make the selection of one's whole summer wardrobe a possibility, if one is so forehanded.

One prominent shop has been showing a particularly attractive line of black and white check effects in lightweight worsteds, an echo of last season's popular plaid but with variations, and women seemed to recognize possibilities in the stuff, for many long lengths were sold. There were checks little and checks big, checks of the regulation shepherd type and checks

in which the white predominated and only narrow lines of black barred off the large or small or irregular checks.

Many of these stuffs had threads of color, dull blue, or fruit red, or green, or yellow, showing here and there through the black and white check grounds, and some of the most attractive designs had silk dots in some soft dull shade scattered at wide intervals over the checked surface.

Indications that checked materials have not lost prestige are seen, too, in the new taffetas, messelines, foulards, &c., and in the velvings and eolennies. Brown and white and champagne and white, are combinations much in evidence, and, as the early showing suggests, the browns are to continue their vogue into warm weather, this vision of the new browns with white will be one of the coolest of the brown efforts. A majority of the winter's new browns, while beautiful, are too warm in color to look anything save oppressive under a midsum-

mer sun and in combination with a complexion heated to florid hues.

A sheer veiling in shepherd plaid checks of tangerine and white was among last summer's offerings, and it appears again in the new stuffs, at the light end of the gamut of white and brown checks, and conjures up a vision of an exceedingly smart summer shirt waist frock or afternoon frock. It would, for instance, enter effectively into two of the frocks sketched here, although the original models of both were in one tone stuffs.

One of these frocks, distinctly chic, though easily copied, has a full skirt around which run two broad bands of lace, bordered by velvet ribbon shirred at both edges. The bodice blouses slightly and opens all the way down the front to show soft jabots of lace, the fronts being finished by velvet ribbon set on in scrolls.

This model might be effectively and easily carried out in any pretty voile, crepe or eolienne, and would surely be modish throughout the summer.

The other frock demands a sheer soft stuff adapting itself readily to drapery, and, though very simple in appearance, would tax the maker's skill as do all frocks depending upon bodice drapery and skirt lines for their success. The heavy lace yokes are excellent in line and not difficult of achievement.

Going back to the subject of the new goods, there are delectable tweeds in light creamy grays and mode tones with almost invisible plaiding in lines of white and varying shades of the ground color, and there are, of course, darker tweeds, homespuns, chevrons and argens in every imaginable coloring, but the chances are that examine weaves will compete with these heavier wools, as they did last season in the province of the coat and skirt frock and other tailored costumes.

From Paris come tales of Riviera street frocks carrying out the redingote and long coat ideas launched this winter, but though we shall doubtless see many long coats among the spring costumes the new spring models

and here again the bolero has the lead, appearing in every imaginable guise, long, short, triple, loose, fitted, bloused. Short loose boleros, like the one sketched here, with short loose sleeves whose top fullness marks the differentiation from last year's models, are shown in some of the best houses, in company with plain plaited skirts of linen and sheer blouses of allover batiste openwork embroidery, or of tulle or lawn trimmed in lace and hand work.

The new allover embroideries are even lovelier than those of last summer, although last summer one would have denied the possibility of improvement.

Among the most exquisite of the new designs is an allover embroidery on finest batiste or awies, whose design is of the finest cobweb tracery in raised work, with minute openwork or eyelet details hardly larger than pinheads. The work has the appearance of the finest hand needlework and is of an indescribable daintiness though not so boldly decorative as the more open and striking broderie anglaise.

There are, too, allover combining embroidery and lace in fashions entirely new and exquisite. They are not a mere setting together of made laces and embroideries, but consist of interwoven irregular designs, part solid Valenciennes, part finest batiste embroidery. They look in some lights like a beautiful batiste embroidered with wide open spaces, laid over a background of allover Valenciennes.

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originality the smartness of the costume often depends. The surprise waistcoat finds considerable favor, as do all surprise effects, and though some of these surprise waistcoats have borders of beautiful and elaborate embroidery, many are untrimmed and rely for success upon the color effect.

One smart model in dark blue serge has a blouse Eton coat with short, rounded basques and a surprise waistcoat formed of bias folds of half inch blue and green checks, barred off by a hair line of yellow. Tiny bias pipings of the silk enter into the trimming of the skirt and coat, and small dull gold buttons are set on the girdle, cuffs and fronts.

For frocks made with short boleros in one with the bodices, this surprise front idea is well liked and easy of development. One of the cuts shows such an arrangement, and not only with the bolero, but also with the Louis and Directoire coats

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The same is true of summer stuffs, although of course many of the best of these materials are not yet in the market, and one will be fairly sure of finding something satisfactory among the great variety even late in the season.

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Apricot, tea rose, tangerine, all the luscious pinkish yellow shades, are more prominent among the summer stuffs than ever before within memory, and in union with white are delightfully soft and cool. A genuine colonial buff, too, appears frequently among the cottons, linens and mercerized cottons, and it seems safe to assume that yellow, particularly in the shades just mentioned, will be well to the fore among the summer colorings.

All the string color and natural pongs and linen shades are popular, too, and some charming mercerized materials in these colorings have dots, cubes or other small figures of a sort of drawn work weaves, figures and ground work being all in one tone.

The printed pongs are in some instances exceedingly attractive, though in other cases the printed design detracts from the beauty of the material instead of adding to it. Possibly the best of these pongs are in the natural shade and in the fine smooth surface quality, with little apris, sprays or wreaths of flowers in dull, soft

and easily made by any woman who embroiders, and such details are the keynotes to individuality and modishness in a simple frock, meaning much more than any amount of elaborate applied machine trimming.

Another linen frock turned out by the same maker is quite as severe in general outline, but is softened by its revers and flaring cuffs, which are formed of finely tucked sheer lawn edged by several frills of creamy valenciennes. Here, too, the linen sleeves end at the elbow, and it is evident that this type of sleeve and cuff, worn with a sheer undersleeve, is to find much favor in the coming season, though the French elbow sleeve, showing the point of the elbow and worn without undersleeves, is regarded very dubiously on this side of the water.

A distinctly novel feature of a third linen frock, sketched here, one very readily reproduced, is a surprise front of the blouse bolero, and the trimming bordering the fronts. This trimming is merely a line from shoulder to waist, formed by a soft taffeta scarf laced through large embroidered eyelet holes in the linen. Similar lacing trims the cuffs. In the model, the scarf exactly matched the linen in tint, but good effects might be obtained by the use of contrasting colors with white or neutral toned linen.

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believed that the heavier silks of this persuasion will be much used for summer coat and skirt costumes. Indeed, many such costumes for Southern wear have already been turned out by the fashionable dressmakers.

They are made either in severe tailored fashion or trimmed in some one of the heavy crochet laces matching the silk in tone, and many of the coats for such frocks are loose saques or palatots, though the fitted coat is really smarter for any length below the waist line.

The fitted coat of linen, save in the case of the bolero, is seldom a success—never a success, one may safely say, if the frock is actually intended to brave the laundress. But the linen boleros are of great variety and charm. Several of the new linen models are pictured in the central group, and though no one of them is worth copying, a particularly girlish and piquant frock of almond green linen was made with an untrimmed plaited skirt and a blouse cut down in a broad V at the throat and made with short sleeves ending at the elbow

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Another linen frock turned out by the same maker is quite as severe in general outline, but is softened by its revers and flaring cuffs, which are formed of finely tucked sheer lawn edged by several frills of creamy valenciennes. Here, too, the linen sleeves end at the elbow, and it is evident that this type of sleeve and cuff, worn with a sheer undersleeve, is to find much favor in the coming season, though the French elbow sleeve, showing the point of the elbow and worn without undersleeves, is regarded very dubiously on this side of the water.

A distinctly novel feature of a third linen frock, sketched here, one very readily reproduced, is a surprise front of the blouse bolero, and the trimming bordering the fronts. This trimming is merely a line from shoulder to waist, formed by a soft taffeta scarf laced through large embroidered eyelet holes in the linen. Similar lacing trims the cuffs. In the model, the scarf exactly matched the linen in tint, but good effects might be obtained by the use of contrasting colors with white or neutral toned linen.

The Artistic Effect of Beautiful Hair



is the acknowledged finishing touch of a lady's toilet. If the hair is so thin or short as to make it impossible to dress it artistically, an experienced hairdresser will enable us to tell at a glance just what is needed, and the remedy will appear so natural as to defy detection.

In rendering such assistance, however, it is extremely important that the best material obtainable be used in order to prevent artificial appearance. We take a justifiable pride in our